

Sales Tax Committee Meeting

Summary Minutes

May 9, 2013

Absent members: Mr. William Tucker.

Meeting began at 4:04 pm

Agenda Item #1: Citizens to be Heard

Mr. Bert Pope and Mr. Rick Minor addressed the Committee in support of the DeSoto Winter Encampment project.

Mr. Brad Trotman and Ms. Jennifer Winegardner addressed the Committee in support of the Killearn Estates Freshwater Restoration project.

Ms. Betsy Henderson addressed the Committee, on behalf of the Southside Advisory Redevelopment Council, in support of projects in the Southside (Monroe-Adams Corridor Placemaking, Orange/Meridian Placemaking, and the StarMetro South Adams SuperStop).

Ms. Pamela Hall addressed the Committee to give more information on the Alternative Sewer Solutions project. Ms. Hall also urged the Committee to not pursue the Welaunee Critical Area Plan Regional Infrastructure project.

Ms. Emily Fritz addressed the Committee in support of County and City infrastructure needs, urging the Committee to consider increasing the County and City portion of the Sales Tax over the preliminary 10% each.

Mr. Curtis Baynes addressed the Committee over concerns regarding nitrogen loading in the primary spring's protection zone and projects that would address those concern (the Woodville Water Quality Project and Oakridge Sewer Project).

Agenda Item #2: Approval of Summary Minutes for the April 26, 2013 Meeting of the Leon County Sales Tax Committee

Mr. Bill Berlow asked that Mr. Tom O'Steen and Bill Peebles' names are corrected. Ms. Kim Rivers asked that the minutes note that the 10% allocation to both the County and City was only a 'preliminary' allocation.

Mr. Peebles made a motion to approve the April 26, 2013 summary minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kim Williams. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3: Update on Progress of Imagine

Ms. Rivers discussed the upcoming Community Open Houses to be held May 20th, at 5:30pm, at Bethel AME Church and on May 21st, at 2:00pm, in the City Commission Chambers in City Hall. A third Open House will be held June 10th, with time and location to be announced. Ms. Rivers also discussed the launch of www.imaginetallahassee.com. Mr. Steve Evans asked about Imagine Tallahassee's process for reviewing economic development project proposals. Ms. Rivers replied that the process was not a project process and was more focused on taking input from the community.

Agenda Item #4: Presentation on Project #28: Northeast Gateway (Welaunee Critical Area Plan Regional Infrastructure)

Mr. David Powell, on behalf of Powerhouse, Inc., and Mr. Reggie Bouthillier, on behalf of CNL, presented on Project #28: Northeast Gateway (Welaunee Critical Area Plan Regional Infrastructure) project. Mr. Powell discussed that the main aspect of the project would be to

create a road network to support a new I-10 interchange. The project would also include a greenway. He also emphasized that a local commitment to the area, such as funding this project, would make it easier to secure state and federal commitments on funding aspects of the project. Additionally, Mr. Powell acknowledged that the expensive costs of new roads and suggested that the project could be broken up over three phases as listed in the table below:

Phase	Phase Description	Cost
I	4-lane Welaunee Boulevard South from Fleischman to I-10; 4-lane Welaunee Boulevard North from I-10 to Shamrock; 2-lane Shamrock Way Extension from Centerville to Welaunee Boulevard North	\$ 39.5 million (net cost of \$26.5 million)
IIA	4-lane Welaunee Boulevard North from Shamrock Way Extension to Roberts Road	\$16.0 million
IIB	2-lane Shamrock Way Extension from Welaunee Boulevard to U.S. 90	\$14.0 million

Mr. Powell proposed that the Committee could make the funds contingent upon commitments from DOT's to build the interchange. Mr. Harry Reed, Director of Capital Regional Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA), noted that it could take 17 years to build the project even if money was available today. The Committee also discussed if there were parts of the project that could be cut to save money. Mr. Powell informed the Committee that Powerhouse, Inc. is interested in a big idea, as presented in the project.

Agenda Item #5: Presentation on Project #3 and Project #5: Airport Gateway (Springhill Road and Lake Bradford Road)

Mr. Wayne Tedder, Director of P.L.A.C.E., presented to the committee a holistic Airport Gateway project which would merge Project #3 (Springhill Road) and Project #5 (Lake Bradford Road). The Lake Bradford component of the project would extend from Gaines St. to the Orange Avenue intersection. The improvements to this portion of the project would include roundabouts, gateway streetscaping, and roadway reconstruction. The Springhill Road section of the proposed project begins the Orange Avenue intersection and extends down to Capital Circle Southwest (Project #1). The improvements to this portion of the project would include transportation improvements and right of way acquisition and beautification. The estimated cost of the Airport Gateway Project is \$58.7 million.

Agenda Item #6: Continue Committee Project Discussion on Recommended Project List and Length of the Sales Tax

A) Consideration of Priority Levels of Tabled Projects

Mr. O'Steen moved that the DeSoto Winter Encampment project be categorized at Priority Level 1, contingent on receiving state funding for the remainder of the unfunded improvements. Ms. Christic Henry seconded the motion. Mr. Peebles moved to amend the motion to only provide \$500,000 for land acquisition. Mr. O'Steen accepted the motion as a friendly amendment. The motion to make the project Priority Level 1, with caveats, passed without opposition.

Ms. Henree Martin moved that the Northeast Park project be categorized at Priority Level 1. Mr. Will Messer seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Gabriel Menendez, Director of Tallahassee Public Works, presented more information on options for beautification and safety improvements for West Tennessee Street, state roadway system. A previous City proposal was to reduce lane widths and reserve the outside traffic lane for buses and cyclists. However, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) weighed in

on the project and has begun their study on safety improvements to the roadway. Mr. Menendez also discussed that FDOT was looking at putting a fence in the medians on Tennessee Street. Mr. O'Steen moved that the project be moved to Priority Level 3 and asked the City continue to update the Committee on FDOT's future plans regarding this roadway. Ms. Henree Martin seconded the motion, which passed without opposition.

B) Preliminary Consideration of Sales Tax Length of Term

Ms. Martin moved that the Sales Tax be extended for 25 years. The Committee discussed the merits of extending the Sales Tax between 15 and 25 years. Mr. Lamar Taylor pointed out that 20 years is a common bond term. He also noted that a shorter bond term would have compressed bond payments, which could impact the present value of the dollars. Ms. Martin made a substitute motion to extend the Sales Tax for 20 years. Mr. Peebles seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.

C) Continued Project Discussion

Ms. Martin motioned that the Committee move that the Project #27 (Orange Avenue Widening) be moved from a Priority Level #1 to Priority Level #3, noting that there are a lot of projects in the Southside and that the Florida Department of Transportation has allocated funding for Orange Avenue improvements in its Five Year Work Plan. Mr. Curtis Richardson strongly objected, citing that the DOT project only repaves the road and doesn't bring the benefits of the Committee's proposed project. Mr. Peebles said that it should be kept at Priority Level 1 and the FDOT's funding makes the project better.

Mr. Newman addressed the Committee's evaluation process and discussed the possibility that the community at large may be getting the wrong idea when the Committee discussed a project in terms of priority levels. He suggested that the Committee not assume that a project that was ranked at Priority #1 would automatically be placed in a funded Tier 1 project list. Ms. Martin withdrew the motion.

Mr. Dan Newman noted that the Committee should provide staff with a list of additional information they would like to have prior to evaluating projects and placing them into Tiers at the next meeting. The Committee asked for:

- geographic visualization on the location of the project proposals;
- list of the CRTPA priority roadway projects;
- information on the environmental aspects of projects and whether or not segments can be removed from projects.

Other Committee Business

Mr. Peebles asked to see if it was possible to schedule an earlier meeting in order to continue the project evaluation process. The Committee ultimately agreed not to schedule an earlier meeting. The next meeting of the Committee will be on June 13, 2013, at 1 p.m. The Committee did agree that during this meeting the focus should be on evaluating projects and asked that no presentations and citizens comments be included in the agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm.